

ORDER FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO REPORT

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be authorized to report an executive treaty on Friday, September 6, 2002, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER PLAZA AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5012, just received from the House and which is now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5012) to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a project for construction of a plaza adjacent to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5012) was read the third time and passed.

THOMAS E. BURNETT, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5207, just received from the House and which is now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5207) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6101 West Old Shakopee Road in Bloomington, Minnesota, as the "Thomas E. Burnett, Jr. Post Office Building".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. REID). The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I join with my colleague, the senior Senator from Minnesota, Mr. WELLSTONE, who has introduced this legislation to honor Thomas E. Burnett, Jr., a true hero who gave his life on September 11 on the flight that was returning to Washington to cause enormous destruction to either this building perhaps or the White House. No one will ever know for sure. What we do know is the plane was prevented from its intended destructive course by the heroism of Mr. Burnett and others who were on that flight. We know that be-

cause on three or four occasions he called his wife, Deena. He spoke with her on a cell phone and communicated his intention and the intention of other passengers to intervene and wrest control of the plane from the hijackers who had commandeered that plane.

It was an act of enormous courage. It saved hundreds, perhaps thousands of lives, most likely in our Nation's Capitol. Tragically, it cost Mr. Burnett and the other passengers on that flight their lives. All of us in this body owe a debt of unspeakable gratitude to those incredibly courageous men and women.

I had occasion to visit Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burnett, Sr., the parents of Mr. Burnett, in Minnesota to express our gratitude and share briefly the enormous grief they bear, as well as the grief of Mr. Burnett's wife and three children, which they will carry for the rest of their lives.

In a few minutes, we will pass this act to name the post office in Mr. Burnett's honor. Again, I thank Senator WELLSTONE, my senior colleague, for his thoughtful initiative in this regard, and I thank the Members of the Senate who I anticipate will vote in support of this measure. It is such a small measure of our eternal gratitude to this brave man. May he rest forever in peace and in the annals of the great heroes of this country.

I yield the floor.

The bill (H.R. 5207) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

(Mr. DAYTON assumed the Chair.)

JOSEPH CURSEEN, JR. AND THOMAS MORRIS, JR. PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H.R. 3287, recently received from the House, and now at our desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3287) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 900 Brentwood Road, NE, in Washington, DC, as the "Joseph Curseen, Jr. and Thomas Morris, Jr. Processing and Distribution Center."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the immediate consideration of the bill.

Mr. REID. These two individuals were killed by anthrax. They worked at the post office on Brentwood Road, northeast Washington. Their fellow employees felt it was appropriate to name this facility, when it reopens, after them. It is very appropriate that it be done.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3287) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I am pleased the Senate has passed H.R. 3287/S. 2907, a bill to rename the Brentwood postal facility after Joseph P. Curseen, Jr. and Thomas L. Morris, Jr. I can think of nothing more appropriate to honor the memory and tireless service of these two men. Our action today clears the way for the President to sign the bill into law. I especially recognize Celeste Curseen and Mary Morris. While nothing can erase the suffering of the Morris and Curseen families, I hope that the building will stand as a permanent reminder of the ultimate sacrifice made by Thomas Morris and Joseph Curseen.

It has been said that "neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." On October 15, 2001, that list was expanded when an anthrax-tainted letter was opened in my office. We later learned that its spread was far greater than first expected. A second letter addressed to the Senator from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY, was discovered weeks later. The Hart Senate Office Building was closed for more than three months. It took nearly six months to remediate and renovate my own office in that building. In the end, nearly a dozen people nationwide contracted inhalation anthrax, and five people, including Thomas Morris and Joseph Curseen, died as a result of this senseless act of bioterrorism.

Today, nearly a year later, the Brentwood facility where the letter was processed remains closed, with plans underway for a complete remediation and reopening of that building. Never again can anyone take the delivery of their mail for granted.

My staff and I feel a special kinship with the postal workers and others affected by these attacks. While the uncertainty and horror of October 15—the day the letter addressed to me was opened in my office—and the ensuing months were very real for us, the suffering of those struck by the disease was even greater. We can only imagine the pain experienced by Thomas Morris, Joseph Curseen, and their families, pain shared by the families of Robert Stevens, Kathy Thi Nguyen, and Otilie Lundgren, who also lost their lives as a result of this terrorist act. Fortunately, LeRoy Richmond, Norma Wallace, "George Fairfax," David Hose, and Ernesto Blanco survived their battles with inhalation anthrax, but we know how terrifying their experience must have been and that they continue to suffer the physical and emotional after-effects. Still others—including three postal workers—dealt with the fear and pain associated with the cutaneous form of the disease.

Postal workers are some of America's quiet heroes. They are on the front lines of the war on terrorism here at